



51 Years of DX-cellence

BULLetin

No. 1

January 1999



Next Meeting Election of Officers

7:30 PM, Thursday, January 14th at
*Jun's Electronics, 5563 Sepulveda
Blvd. (Exit the San Diego Fwy (405)
at Jefferson and proceed east to
Sepulveda Blvd.)*

Besides the usual *Gemutlichkeit*, elections and prizes, the rare video, "Last Voice From Kuwait" chronicles a single operator's bravery in the face of invasion. 9K2DR continued to pass traffic and report on conditions while Iraqi troops inspected his house. It's an important video to see and validates the need for us DX'ers to build them big antennas and buy that expensive equipment.



Christmas Fest Rocks da'Boid

They haven't had a crowd like this since O.J. won the Heisman. Newt Hila, Proud Bird security czar added two officers to handle the merrymakers. "That's an energetic bunch," Hila said. When he was told it was a "Ham Radio DX Club," Hila replied, "Well, that explains it, a bunch'a outlaw truckers."



Speaker, Alan Kaul, W6RCL, Left with Dave Bell, W6AQ. (BULLetin photo by Dan Magro, W7RF)

(Continued on Page 4)

**Important Campbell Island Propagation guidelines.
See "Mini Prop Plus Predictions" Page 3.**

Slate of Officers Presented

The following slate of officers will be presented by the board for membership approval at the January meeting. It is not necessary for the membership to accept this slate. The floor is open for nominations.

President:
Vice President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Membership Chairman:
Board Members:
Will Angenent, K6NDV
Terry Dunlap, KK6T
Herb Rosenberg, KG6OK

Harvey Laidman, W8DX
Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ
Chuck Constantine, KR6Z
Skip Bolnick, KJ6Y
Harvey Shore, K6EXO

Rich Bongiorno, WU6T
Cathy Gardenias, KF6LFB

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President's Soapbox

by Will Angenent, K6NDV



Hope you had a nice holiday season and a Happy new year. All good wishes from this end and hope we all work the P5

and the other ones we need this year.

Thanks to all who participated in the Clubs annual party, it was a great success. A special "thank you" goes to Charlotte and her husband for doing a lot of work.

This will be my last meeting as president of the club. Elections will be held at the January meeting, you will find the slate in this *BULLETin*.

I had a very pleasant year as president, with all the help and advice, it was a smooth running operation. I still will be involved in club activities and will help wherever I can.

Several of us have been talking about Visalia 2000, as you know the contract was signed with the Holiday Inn in Visalia, several months ago. You can mark the calendar: April 14-17, 2000. There is a new hotel across from the Holiday Inn so there should be enough rooms available.

At the last SCCC meeting Don, N6IC, Rick, W6SR and Dave, W6AQ and I had a short meeting about Visalia 2000. Rick, W6SR is moving up north, he will vacate his position as co-chairman of the committee, I will take his place as co-chair with Don, N6IC and the Visalia committee. Rich, WU6T is retiring from the committee as prize chairman. Herb KG6OK (who is also nominated for board member in 1999) is willing to fill Rich's position,

Don't worry about the February *BULLETin* deadline.

As of this writing there is no staff and no issue is planned.

he has started making contacts. This might be an early start but I think it is good to have an enthusiastic team!

Now back to Dx'ing: Not to much on lately. VP2MHJ is showing up on several bands as does the 3DA6Z gang (ZS6EZ et al). I worked XR0Z, Juan Fernandez) a few days ago. Ron, ZL1AMO as ZK3RW is active again.. The ZL9 crew is on their way and by the time of our meeting they will be all over the bands.

Hope to see you at Shakey's.

...Will, K6NDV

Packet Spot Iron Cage Free-For-All Derby

by Harvey Shore, K6EXO



Notice the high scores this month? I see a lot of new calls toward the top of the list. But you all have to be a bit more consistent to

be a contender. I plan to change the award program a bit. I will give the award for the MOST TOTAL POINTS for the year and for the most MONTHS a station wins.

Scores will be added starting in January, 1999. Our perennial champion Doug, N6RT, (yep, he won the award and a new log) has revised the point scoring for the Derby. He is a lot more generous this year than last. No more will there be NEGATIVE points, so it is OK to list the "W9" in Wisconsin on two meters. All the DX'ers who use 6 meters and the satellites will appreciate this. Charlie, W6KK, worked a few 6 meter stations and profited from it in the scoring. I will send Bruce the new score rules for publication on the web page so you can all past it on the wall in the shack right next to the clock.

Speaking of CHAMPS — I was de-

lighted to announce that WA6TLA won second place in the 1998 derby. Hey Elliott, That was a great article in *QST*!

I am sure you are aware of the changes in the PacketCluster system. We are now a WEST COAST network. There is a reliable link to North California and up through Washington State. This complements the links into Arizona and Nevada.

Hope you all had a great holiday!

Spotter	Spots	Score
N6RT	348	663
K6YRA	49	171
W6KK	65	111
WU6T	51	98
KG6OK	49	87
W6LAX	42	87
WA6TLA	39	83
KR6C	48	71
W6ZH	38	63
K2PLF-6	32	62
W6AUG	28	50
KK6T	18	44
W6EA	8	38
W6EJJ	10	35
N6KZ	24	28
W1HIJ	18	28
N6UC	15	26
K6GXO	12	25
WK6E	9	21
W3SE	24	20
W6RW	9	19
K6NDV	6	19
KQ6PS	16	18
K6VIV	9	18
K6YUI	9	18
W6RT	3	15
KC6T	6	13
N6JZ	7	12
K6ZZ	7	10
N6IC	4	10
W6BL	7	9
W6RJ	9	8
AI6Z	3	8
W6AQ	4	7
K6CH	4	6
K6DU	1	6
NQ6N	1	6
KF6HI	5	5
K6ZMW	3	4
KI6ZS	3	4
N6RV	1	4
AA6RK	2	3
K6WS	2	3
N6HC	2	3
W7RF	2	3

(Continued on Page 3)

MINIPROP PLUS Predictions

by Shel, W6EL



These MINIPROP PLUS predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month. Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 163, corresponding to a sunspot number of 114, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

DX Location:

S2 Bangladesh - to 1/31
Beam 331 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/21) 0046/1132

Band/Best Times:

80: 1300-1430.
40: 1100-1530.
20: 1530-1930 and 2330-0200.
Long path 0000-0130.
15: 0030-0230.

3A Monaco - to 1/31
Beam 36 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/21) 0703/1621

80: 0330-0600
40: 0200-0700.
20: Long path 1500-1600.
15: 1530-1900.
10: 1630-1730.

C5 Gambia - to 2/5
Beam 72 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/23) 0735/1856

80: 0330-0700.
40: 0200-0730.
20: 2330-0330.
15: 1430-0100.
10: 1530-2330.

T33 Banaba - to March
Beam 259 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/31) 1854/0656

80: 0830-1430.
40: 0630-1530.
20: 0430-1230 and 1500-1730.
15: 1830-0400.
10: 1900-0230.

FT5Z Amsterdam - all year
Beam 248 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/31) 0006/1400

40: Around 1430.
20: 1130-1700. Long path 2330-0200.
15: 1600-1800.

ZL9C Campbell - 1/9 to 1/25
Beam 219 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 1/18) 1708/0853

80: 0930-1400.
40: 0800-1500.
20: 0530-1200 and 1430-1630.
15: 1630-0400.

New, Improved Web Site Imminent

Southern California DX Club Webmaster Bruce, WA7BNM expects to have the redesigned SCDXC web site up and running within the next couple of weeks. The URL is <http://www.scdxc.org/> You can use that address now, and it will automatically switch you to the current site until the new one is operational.

SCDXC Web Site: <http://www.primenet.com/~scdxc/>

Packet Spot Derby

(Continued)

Spotter	Spots	Score
K6OHM	1	3
W6SMD	2	2
K6FG	1	2
KC6X	1	2
N7CQQ	1	2
W6SR	1	2
W6YY	1	2
N6GB	1	1
W6EL	1	0

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The holiday season is over. WA5VGI, Jim, has a new TS870 (Thanks Linda) and almost one third of the club has sent in their dues. How about you?

Ah, I see you forgot! Well, now is the time to write out a check for \$18 payable to "SCDXC" and send it to K6EXO at 6433 Pat Ave. West Hills, CA 91307.

(Please write your call on the check.)

Paid club members will be cheered at the January club meeting. Maybe I can convince the board to allow a drawing for some neat prize to be given to PAID UP MEMBERS at the meeting.

Ah yes, elections. You are encouraged to attend the January meeting and vote out this year's scoundrels. Another bunch want in and b'gosh I think they deserve it! Vote often!

...Harv, K6EXO

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Christmas Party

(From Page 1)

Alan Kaul, W6RCL gave an absorbing talk about his experiences as a news producer at NBC. Alan is also quite active as a QRP contester and DX'er. He is well known for his activities from Jordan and other places throughout the world. He was introduced by Dave Bell, W6AQ.

The grand prize, an Alinco DX-70 HF transceiver was won by Elke, KE6RLY. She intends to hit the bands with a vengeance, plugging into significant other Dan, W7RF's stacked array. "Goodie," says Dan, "I get the dipole."



KE6RLY prepares to program popular DXpedition frequencies into her new DX-70.

Editor's Report



It's over for me, now, the *BULLETIN*, I mean. Thanks to Al, K6YRA, who slapped on the stamps and labels and dealt with the printer, to Mark, K6FG who compiled the DX reports every month, to Harvey, K6EXO, always "there" with his derby or comments or good humor. His grasp of the software made it easy to integrate his input. I appreciated it. Al, NS6B with his QSL information, Shel's propagation reports. Lee, KH6BZF came aboard when I needed his data and he always provides great stuff. Will, K6NDV always "scooped" me in his columns. Dan, K7RF provided pictures and internet data and who can beat Milt, W6RJO and his file of puzzles and conundrums? Our advertisers, QRZ DX, Duane Heise, AA6EE, Communications Service Company, Ham Radio Outlet, Jun's - you've been generous. To all of you, a tip of the "cans."

As of this writing, it appears that there is someone who was concerned that there would be no *BULLETIN*. He has kindly offered to carry on to his best ability. Perhaps he will have fewer delusions than I. He will not feel compelled to turn out eight or more pages each month, or pursue time consuming feature articles. I was often advised to scale the *BULLETIN* down, but it was not within me. I wanted to produce the kind of book that I would pick up from time to time, read feverishly and chuckle. I do that, leave the issue on my desk. Most mornings, I pick it up and enjoy it. Somehow, I no longer scour *QST* front to back at the mail box. It has

(Continued on Page 5)

W6OK Gives it Away

At age 92, George, W6OK is slowing down a bit. Unfortunately, he has become visually impaired. He has a considerable collection of radio and electronic



equipment, including *QST* and *CQ* magazines dating back to their initial publication. He would like to offer it to any interested members of the Southern California DX Club. George only asks that you make a small donation to the club. Please call George at (323) 255 - 4528. "I can't read my dupe lists, so I can't operate the contests any more," George says about his first love, "every once in a while," he continues, "I back the truck out of the driveway."



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Editor's Report

(Continued)

become bland, milky and limp.

My line of work is fickle. It comes and goes. When I started doing the *BULLETin*, work was slow, and I was thankful for the creative outlet. Now, I am busy again. Ethically, I could not downsize the *BULLETin* while I was giving my "all" in my work. What I did was to try to anticipate my deadlines and assemble as much of the *BULLETin* as I could in advance. This put pressure on my contributors. I also foresaw that I would have to forgo my beloved feature articles. These gave me a reason to research and interview and make delicious and unusual discoveries. I've learned a lot in the last two years.

Lastly, I've gotten a perspective from which to view the state of Amateur Radio and DX'ing in particular. I'm horrified and frightened. It may well be that DX'ing has no redeemable social value, that it is a politically incorrect, environmentally unsound and selfish pastime of "good 'ol boys." No wonder we fight the Condo Committees, Landlords and CC&R's. We'll soon have to post "Radiation Hazard" signs on our doors. We have to look away from

(Continued on page 6)

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AA6EE is offering discount prices on
Callbook CDs and ARRL items.

Following prices include shipping USA:

Radio Amateur Callbook CD-ROM 1999: \$39.95

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QRZ! Ham Radio CD-ROM (vol. 12): \$16.95

QST Views: \$35.95 (3 @ \$33.95)

'99 ARRL Handbook: \$28.95 (Handbook CD3.0: \$44.95)

ARRL Antenna Book (18th edition): \$26.95 (Antenna Book CD1.0: \$34.95)

ARRL Repeater Directory '98-'99: \$7.95 (\$5.50 with any other item)

DXCC Countries List (Nov. '98) - \$3.75 (\$2.75 with any other item)

ARRL License Manuals (Gen., Adv., Extra): \$11.95 (\$9.95 w/any other item)

Dxing on the Edge - Thrill of 160 Meters (includes audio CD): \$28.95.

Most items shipped same day, except for QST Views.

Prices include shipping USA.. Add tax for CA deliveries.

Send check to Duane Heise, AA6EE, 16832 Whirlwind #S,
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Visit my new web site: <http://www.radiodan.com/aa6ee/>

Club Repeater:	W6AM/R 145.48 MHz, 100 Hz PL
BULLETin Editor:	Harvey Laidman, W8DX Box 260457 Encino, California 91426-0457 (818) 784-9501 (818) 986-8850 (FAX) HarveyL@outadaloop.com http://outadaloop.com (Web Site)
BULLETin Publisher:	Al Friedman, K6YRA 16770 Addison Street Encino, California 91436 (818) 981-2304 K6YRA@ucla.edu

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Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

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Heard and Worked

by Mark Weiss, K6FG



Signals don't
get to the sunny
shores of Southern
California like they
get everywhere else.
Sometimes, a band
is open for just a
few minutes.
Sometimes, a rare
country appears at a

crazy time or frequency. Here are selected reports from local stations. Be unusual, break a tradition. Send your report for February to the Editor.

Date Time Mode DX

160

12/2	1430	CW	XZ1N
12/3	1356	CW	DS4CNB
12/4	0347	CW	HI8/DL1HCM
12/7	1416	CW	KH7R
12/28	1456	CW	3D2DK
1/5	1516	CW	T20FW

80

11/30	1432	SSB	A61AJ
12/12	1352	SSB	FT5ZH
12/12	1451	SSB	T88II
12/15	1343	SSB	OH5BR
12/30	1415	CW	3D2DK
12/30	1454	SSB	DU1KT

40

12/4	1510	CW	FT5ZH
12/5	1457	SSB	FT5ZH
12/14	1400	CW	T88II
1/3	0414	CW	5H3RK

20

12/4	0104	SSB	FT5ZH
12/11	0351	CW	FT5ZH
12/17	0129	TTY	FT5ZH

17

12/9	1708	CW	XZ1N
12/13	1612	SSB	FT5ZH

15

12/2	1622	SSB	FT5ZH
1/1	1740	TTY	3DA6Z

12

12/3	0002	CW	BV7FC
12/9	0124	CW	XZ1N
12/24	0104	CW	T30CT
12/24	0108	CW	3D2DK

10

11/29	0105	SSB	XU1A
11/30	1841	SSB	D2CM
12/1	0037	SSB	XZ1N
12/2	1511	CW	9G5MF
12/2	1534	SSB	FT5ZH
12/4	1523	SSB	FT5ZH
12/7	0040	SSB	HS0/G3NOM
12/10	0040	SSB	XZ1N
12/13	1619	SSB	GI0UJG
12/29	2355	TTY	3D2DK

(Thanks to K6FG, WB6PSY)

When submitting "Heard and Worked" Please remember to give Band, Date, Time, Mode, Station. Thanks!

Editor's Report

(Continued)

the packetcluster for a moment and think hard about what value we give to our community. That huge antenna sends a message - not just on the radio. It says: "Here lives some nut who talks to truckers and messes up TV reception with a big, ugly pile of metal." I can't help thinking that we're dead wrong in our efforts to recruit more Hams. What we should be doing is enlightening the uninterested public. I'll stop here, because it sounds like I'm starting to preach and I don't want to. You do the thinking.

KH6BZF Reports

"Have We Solved The Solar Puzzle?"

Exclusive to the Southern California DX Club

Have we solved the Solar puzzle? It has been widely discussed and written about this solar puzzle. At the core of our Sun is a thermonuclear furnace where fusion reactions create the titanic energy that streams though the solar system and sustains life on Earth. The temperature at the Sun's center is approximated at some 15 million degrees Celsius. At the Sun's surface it is a relative cool 6,000 degrees Celsius. Now above the surface in the Sun's corona, the outermost layer of the Sun's atmosphere, something unexplainable occurs. First measured 55-ysr ago, the temperature is a fiery 1-million degrees and more. How can the corona be hotter than the Sun's surface? Thermal energy does not normally move from a cooler area to a hotter location. For 55-years, solar astronomers have struggled to find an explanation for their scientific observations. Now findings from the Solar and Heliospheric Observation (SOHO), a joint mission of the European Space Agency and America's NASA, may have solved that puzzle. Instruments aboard SOHO reveal a rapidly shifting pattern of magnetic loops on the Sun's surface, which correlate with brightening of hot gases in the corona. "The thinking is the discovery of fundamental process by which the corona is heated," as a spokesperson for the Stanford-Lockheed Institute of Space Research in Palo Alto, California. Scientists agree that they don't know precisely how it works. Magnetic fields appear and disappear in areas the size of Texas within several days. That would be equivalent energy, contained therein, the amount of energy that would be produced from approximately thousands of Hoover Dams produced in a thousand years. That amount of energy is mind boggling. When the magnetic fields collapse, they generate huge electrical currents that act on the highly conductive corona. It is like the heat generated by a lightning bolt. Therefore, there is more than energy you heat the corona.

(Continued on page 7)

Ham Puzzle

by Milt, W6RJO

QSL Bureau Volunteer



After his buzz wears off, he figures that if he subtracts the number in bags 1 and 2, 4 and 5 from 1000, the difference will give him the number in bag 3. That is, $1000 - 520 - 300$, or 180 in bag 3. It is easy from here on. Bag 4 = $340 - \text{bag 3} = 340 - 180$ or 160. Bag 5 = $300 - 160 = 140$, Bag 2, $430 - 180 = 250$, then bag 1, $520 - 250 = 270$. No more volunteering for QSL sorting for him, the professionals do it better.

This was a very popular puzzle! Bob, N6ET, Paul, N6AV and Elliott, WA6TLA got it right, Alan, AA6DW had the right numbers, but the bags mixed up. All these math experts deserve a prize.

January Puzzler: Same Frequency as Wavelength

A frequency of 1.8 Mhz corresponds to the 160 meter wavelength band. 145 Mhz is in the two meter wavelength band. What ham band is nearest to where the frequency in Mhz and the wavelength in meters coincide?

Even though I will no longer be editing the BULLETin, you may submit your answer to me as before, and I will see that it is forwarded to the new editor and that you receive your prize. ...ed.

*(Send your solution to the
BULLETin Editor, email, post,
FAX okay)*

KH6BZF REPORTS

(Continued)

January is a winter month, in the Northern Hemisphere, and mid-Summer, in the Southern Hemisphere. Band conditions turn to Winter propagation in the Northern Hemisphere and high bands 10, 12, 15 and 17 MTRS were propagation will be EXCELLENT to GOOD with GEOMAGNETIC FIELDS remaining LOW, irrespective of Solar Flux levels.

However, 20 MTRS to open a longer period of time each day, due to the passing of December 21's Soltice. The lengthening of each day's sunlight path in the Northern Hemisphere. The reverse in the Southern hemisphere. On 30 MTRS and on 40 MTRS you will experience slight QRN/QRM but some great DX gray line and darkness paths. Expect 80 and 160 MTRS to improve during the DX gray line and darkness paths as well. de "KH6BZF REPORTS"

DX Accomplishments

(return to: Bruce Horn, 4225 Farmdale Ave., Studio City, CA 91604)

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Call _____ Name _____ Date _____

Please complete the following based on your **confirmed**, mixed-mode country or zone totals:

DXCC Totals: Active Countries (329 max) _____ Total Countries (including deleted) _____

Are you currently on the Honor Roll ? ☐ Yes ☐ No 5BDXCC ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

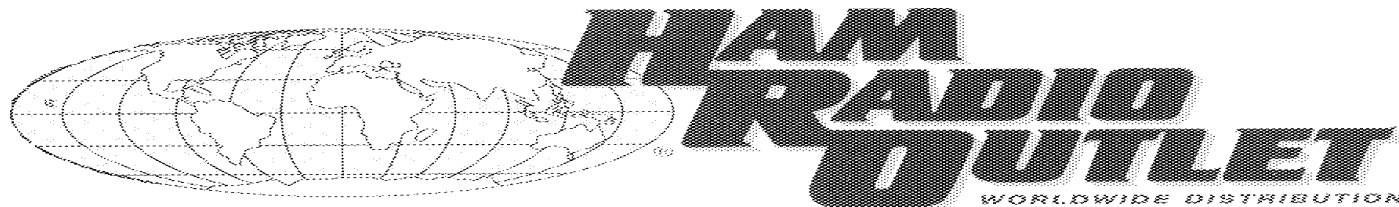
Low Bands (Active Countries Only): 160-meters _____ 80-meters _____ 40-meters _____

WARC Bands (Active Countries Only): 30-meters _____ 17-meters _____ 12-meters _____

WAZ Basic Award (40 Zones) ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Confirmed Zones: 160m _____ 80m _____ 40m _____ 30m _____ 20m _____ 17m _____ 15m _____ 12m _____ 10m _____

The SCDXC thanks the following whose support makes it possible for us to offer an outstanding selection of prizes each month.



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